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New subdivision
963-unit project possibly on the way
Page 2

Eye-catching
Artist's collection of floormat paintings
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Reaching readers
Author broadens his audience
Page 7

NHS awards
Select staffers acknowledged
Page 16

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INPORT NEWS

SERVING PORT COLBORNE • WAINFLEET • SHERKSTON • LOWBANKS • ISSUE NO. 11 VOLUME 16

For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

■ OBITUARY

War vet was very passionate person

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Wilfred Pearson was never afraid to speak his mind.

Pearson

But it was all done with heart, passion and with a smile on his face. "He would say things that would make you stop with a look of shock," said Ward 2 Coun and long-time friend Angie Desmarais.

see **PEARSON** | page 2

■ **PORT CARES:** Annual spring fashion show staged

LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Pho
Port Cares development officer Pam Swick-Janjac, Something Else model Andrea Boitor, Glam Girl model Branda Sceppacerqua and Sue and Cathy Boggio of Boggio's Pharmacy gather at a display table during Port Cares' fundraising fashion show on Thursday evening.

Striking a pose

LINDSAY COSTELLO
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Fashion, food and fun were on the agenda as Port Cares presented its annual spring fashion show on last Thursday evening.

The fundraising effort brought local merchants and fashion lovers to Port Colborne's Italian Canadian Cultural Centre at 223 Bell St. to discover the spring and summer trends that will be available in local shops this season.

"We really wanted to show what the Port Colborne fashion district has to offer," said Caitlin Battista, marketing and communications co-ordinator at Port Cares, adding the organization wanted to incorporate local shops that they have been involved with in the past.

see **FASHION SHOW** | page 2

Geoff Tait
Sales Representative

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■ PEARSON

Outspoken war veteran dead at 80

FROM PAGE 1

"He would shock you. He had an opinion about everything. But he always did everything with kindness. He was an amazing person."

Mr. Pearson was always a regular fixture at the Tim Hortons at the corner of Elizabeth and Main St. West where he would always talk up a storm with his buddies on a daily basis.

"He always got a chuckle out of everyone. I always had a good time whenever we chatted," Desmarais added.

Mr. Pearson died March 3. He was 80.

The long-time Port Colborne resident was well-known for spearheading a lawsuit against the former Inco (now Vale) nickel refinery plant more than a decade ago over decrease in property values due to lawn contamination.

Diana Wiggins worked alongside Mr. Pearson during the lawsuit proceedings. Wiggins described Mr. Pearson as a very passionate person that was "truly concerned about the health and safety of the residents."

"It (lawsuit) wasn't about the money, it was about the wellbeing of his children and grandchildren," Wiggins said. "Its very unfortunate he won't see the end of the lawsuit. His legacy will be with the issue."

While many associated Mr. Pearson with the Inco lawsuit, he was also known for his artistic side. During many holiday seasons the Port Colborne resident could be seen with a paint brush and some poster paint decorating the windows of area businesses and city hall with holidaythemed art.

Mr. Pearson was also a proud member of the Niagara Regional Police Male Chorus.

"He was so proud of that," Desmarais said. "Wilf would always make sure that I had a copy of his CD. He gave me many CDs."

Mr. Pearson was a solider during the Korean War as a member of the 81st Field Regiment of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery between 1953-54. As a veteran he was a member of the Korean War Veterans Association holding various positions and served as a Sergeant-At-Arms for the Royal Canadian Legion branches in Port Colborne and Fort Erie.

Korean War Veterans Association president Romeo Daley knew Mr. Pearson for more than 40 years.

"He was a very proud member. He held every position but president," Daley said. "He was a fantastic person. He sung and had his own band. He always sang the national anthem at events."

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56 member Eric Butler knew Mr. Pearson quite well.

"Wilf was responsible for bringing the old gun (105mm Howitzer) to King George Park," Butler said. "You would always seem him all over the place. He loved building models. Replicas of Great Lakes ships. He had a quite a collection."

Mr. Pearson is survived by his wife Catherine, children Thomas, Kevin, Robert, Timmy and Connie, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

■ VACANT PROPERTY

Housing development proposed

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — A large piece of vacant property in the city could soon be home to a 963-unit subdivision called Rosemount Estates, said Mayor Vance Badawey.

Badawey made the announcement at the recent Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce Quarterly Mayors Breakfast.

While he didn't have many details at the time, the proposal, put forward by 2260304 Ontario Inc, will be subject to a public hearing under the planning act on Monday, March 12 at city hall at 6:30 p.m. The hearing will be on the zoning bylaw amendment proposed for the land.

The property is located on the south side of Killaly St. West, north of the former Canadian National Railway lands and west of Steele St. The proposal is for 219 single detached residential lots on 10.2 hectares, 173 townhouses on 4.75 hectares, 570 medium density residential lots on 6.6 hectares, with 7.34 hectares for roadways, 1.82 hectares for neighbourhood commercial use, 1.39 hectares for parkland and 21.22 hectares for open space/recreation.

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

This piece of property bordered by Killaly St. West could soon be home to a 963-unit subdivision called Rosemount Estates, Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey said.

"This investment is great news for the city and I might add, well overdue. Our community has worked extremely hard to ensure the world recognizes what we have to offer. Investors are taking notice in our community's efforts," said via e-mail on Tuesday.

The mayor said the investors are eager to begin investing in the city because of confidence in the direction Port Colborne has been taking for the past fews years.

"Year after year, the community comes together to showcase who we are through our events marketing strategy such as Canal Days and Flavours. Our team at city hall continues to bring forward award winning marketing strategies, as well as the many capital investments we have made, such as the health and wellness centre and the Main St. improvements."

Badawey said investors want to be a part of the city's growth and success.

"They recognize that Port Colborne, situated on Niagara's South Coast, has become a destination for diverse fun activity with Niagara's traditional activities only a stones throw away, a destination for the young and young at heart."

dave.johnson@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @DaveJTheTribune

■ FASHION SHOW

Female entrepeneurs featured

FROM PAGE 1

She said that with last Thursday being International Women's Day, the event was also focused on spotlighting female entrepreneurs.

Fashions from 270 Degrees West, Something Else, Wishing Well Bridal and Formal Wear, Glam Girl and Flirt Bra Boutique were showcased as models walked the runway and each business owner had a selection of their wares set up for viewing before the show.

With doors opening at 6 p.m., attendees had time to browse the fashion and accessory displays before sitting down to enjoy a pasta dinner. The hour-long fashion show began at 8 p.m. and closed out the evening.

■ COMMUNITY: Port Cares in need of non-perishable goods

Food bank's reserves depleted

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Port Cares Reach Out Food Centre is in desperate need of a number of items, said the centre's operations co-ordinator.

Rachelle Anderson said the centre is completely out of cake and cookie mixes, icing, pie filling, pudding and condiments, like ketchup, salad dressing, mustard, and relish.

"We have nothing left at all," she said. "Some people may think cake mix is not a necessity, but what if it's a child's birthday ... a mother can grab some cake mix."

Anderson said some children also like ranch salad dressing to put on their vegetables and anything to get children to eat vegetables can help.

The centre is also getting really low on items like shampoo, powdered laundry soap, fabric softener sheets, hamburger helper and lunch box size fruit cups.

People can make donations right at the centre, at 61 Nickel St., or if they prefer, they can donate cash or gift cards from grocery stores.

"We can use the cards or cash to purchase items and also purchase perishable items like milk and eggs."

Asked why the centre has run out of items and is so low in others, Anderson said it's due to increased use.

"At the end of 2011, we had 789 people in our database. We now have nearly 900 people accessing food ... I was shocked."

She said in one month alone 45 more people alone started to use the food centre. With those 45 people come spouses and children in many cases, pushing up the numbers.

Some of the people who use the centre may be those just running out of employment benefits or the working poor, people living around the poverty line. Sometimes it's a choice between paying rent and bills or buying food for users of the centre.

Anderson said the increased use may also be the fact that people are more comfortable using the centre.

Those who want to donate or help can contact Rachelle Anderson at 905-835-1914 ext 23.

djohnson@wellandtribune.ca
Twitter: @DaveJTheTribune

portraits

■ EDUCATION

Showcasing their talents

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

WELLAND — Niagara Catholic District School Board students showcased their talents in front of Niagara's industry leaders at the school board's annual Skills Competition, getting feedback from workers in the field.

More than 300 students took part in Tuesday's competition at Seaway Mall, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., which saw students compete in 22 different categories from hairstyling and desktop publishing to automotive technology and carpentry.

Lakeshore Catholic High School's Ashley Giroux, 16, was in the hairstyling competition where she had to create an evening up-do in two hours and a trendy cut in two hours.

"I love this," she said. "It's different and it pushes me outside of my box and helps me discover what I can really do."

This year 2D and 3D animation competitions were added. Students had to create still and moving animations.

Niagara Catholic's director of education John Crocco said the competition was an opportunity for students to showcase their talents, get feedback from leaders who work in the industry, and for those leaders to see the best new talent in the region.

"It's also an opportunity to say to the students the skill set you have is important for society and we want you to continue to explore these skills and maybe for them to say, 'Hey, I want to continue this in college, university, an apprenticeship or even direct entry into the work force," he said.

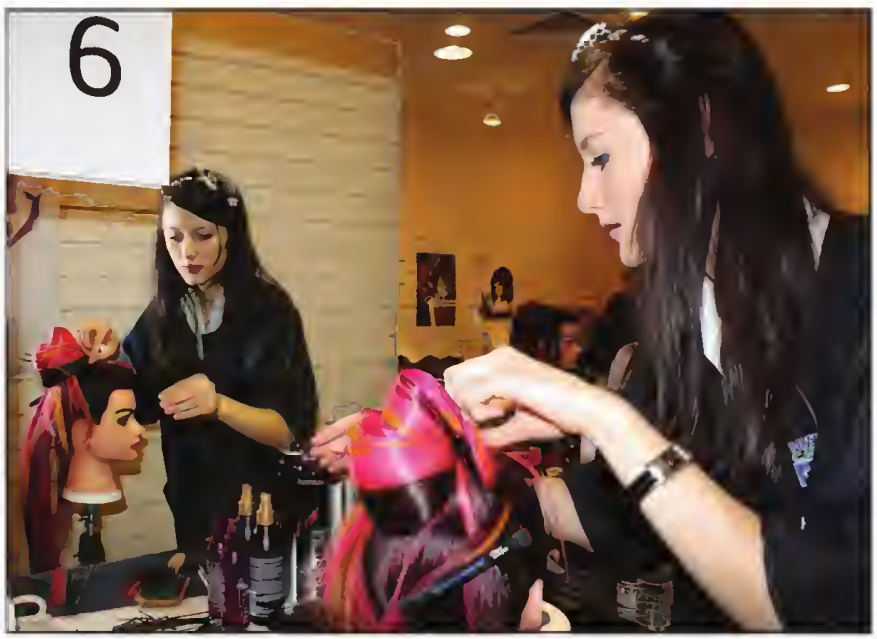
This year was also the first year that Grade 1 students from St. Anthony Catholic School in St. Catharines participated in a Home Depot building workshop where they built birdhouses and Grade 4 students from St. Mary Catholic School received a healthy eating workshop from Denis Morris Catholic School students.

Riley Tsanoff, 10, from St. Mary Catholic School said he had fun helping Andrew Goodwin, 17, from Denis Morris Catholic High School make smoothies.

"I had lots of fun, I didn't know you had to (put your hands behind the knife) when you cut," he said.

Marco Magazzeni, technology consultant for the school board and organizer of the skills competition, said it's important for the community to see what the students are doing and vice versa.

"This gives (the students) a chance to highlight their skills in a public forum to build confidence, but it also gives the community a chance to see what they are doing in their schools because sometimes there is a negative tone. Our kids are showing today that may not necessarily be true," he said.



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Ashley Gerada, a Grade 12 student from Notre Dame College School competed in the hairstyling portion of Niagara Catholic District School Board's annual skills competition Tuesday at the Seaway Mall.

Jeff Tapp, 16, from Lakeshore, competed in the plumbing competition because he knows that's what he wants to make his career.

He and other competitors had to set up a laundry sink, hot water unit and washer hookup.

"It's the kind of job that isn't going to go away, and I can do it with my dad (who works in water treatment) and it's just fun," he said.

Carpentry students also created a planter box bench from plans.

Bradley Wall, 17, of Notre Dame College School, wants to go into rough carpentry, but the competition was helping him learn to get things accomplished quickly.

"I just like working with my hands," he said. "It makes me feel good."

Ashley Gerada, 17, of Notre Dame, who participated in the hairstyling competition said she loves the creativity the competition allows.

"It lets me be creative and lets me express who I am," she said.

■ FACE OFF CHARITY EVENT

Showdown between the north and south

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — In a battle of north versus south, who will reign supreme?

That all depends which municipal officials can bring it on the ice.

The inaugural Niagara South vs. Niagara North Municipal Face Off Charity Event takes place Sunday, April 1 at Wainfleet Arena.

The on-ice showdown will pit south Niagara mayors, chief administrative officers and regional councillors against their north Niagara counterparts.

"I'm excited and personally a little nervous because I can't skate," quipped Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs, who's planning to take the "comedic angle" once she reaches the rink.

Despite her less-than-stellar skating skills, it was Jeffs who first came up with the concept for the municipal face off.

She considers the event an opportunity to not only raise money for a worthy cause, but to also showcase Wainfleet to residents from around the region who travel to the township to attend.

Though there's no cost to attend the game, donations will be collected for the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre.

"It's something different. I don't know if it's ever been done before," Jeffs said, hopeful the community will come out to support the first-time face off.

One thing's for sure: "it's going to be entertaining," she added lightheartedly. She's looking to get some ice time in before the big day arrives -- mostly to learn how to brake on her blades.

After all, Jeffs wants to bring her A game as she may be the only female player battling for the puck.

Though there are still a few people who have yet to confirm their attendance, Jeffs said it's likely she'll be the sole woman on the ice.

The hockey game will begin at 3 p.m., followed by a family skate with municipal officials at 4 p.m. There will be face painting courtesy of Wainfleet's youth committee and raffle baskets up for grabs donated by the participating municipalities.

At 5 p.m., Wainfleet firefighters will host a chili and beer garden at the arena with proceeds also supporting the NPCC.

The Niagara North team will consist of representatives from Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln, Thorold, St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the- Lake, and Niagara South will include Wainfleet, Port Colborne, Fort Erie, Pelham, Welland and Niagara Falls.

INPORT NEWS

Published by InPort News
Sun Media Corp .
228 East Main Street, Welland, Ontario, L3B 5P5
Tel: 905-732-2414 Fax: 905-732-3660
inport@wellandtribune.ca
Ken Koyama, publisher, general manager
Dave Johnson, Inport News senior reporter

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■ourview

New growth

A proposed 963-unit subdivision, to be called Rosemount Estates, could be very good news to the city.

A public meeting was held on the development this past Monday night, outlining the proposal which calls for 219 single detached residential lots on 10.2 hectares, 173 townhouses on 4.75 hectares, 570 medium density residential lots on 6.6 hectares, with 7.34 hectares for roadways, 1.82 hectares for neighbourhood commercial use, 1.39 hectares for parkland and 21.22 hectares for open space/recreation.

Last week, Mayor Vance Badawey said, "This investment is great news for the city and I might add, well overdue. Our community has worked extremely hard to ensure the world recognizes what we have to offer. Investors are taking notice in our community's efforts."

If the proposal is approved and work starts on the subdivision sometime in the next few years, it could mean a major boost to the city's coffers.

Based on 2012 figures, development charges alone on the site could bring in $6,087,067 for the city and $6,749,834 for Niagara Region.

Also based on 2012 figures, the city portion of taxes on each dwelling assessed at $250,000. would be $1,800.00 each. If all 962 units were built, the estimated city portion of taxes would be $1,731,600; taxes on the commercial plaza assessed at $2,000,000, would be estimated at $25,000.

Those figures are just on the city's side, the region and province also stand to benefit from the proposed development.

We understand people in the community are skeptical about another proposed subdivision. Instead of subdivisions, people want to see jobs come to Port Colborne. That's a fair statement.

But would not a proposal this big bring jobs to the city for a number of years and benefit local suppliers? Could not skills programs at both Port High and Lakeshore Catholic benefit from the project?

With skilled trades being in high demand these days, students from the two schools could do a co-op with contractors, possibly be hired as part time help in the summer or maybe offered an apprenticeship.

Those are all benefits of the proposal.

We know there are many subdivision proposals on the books in the city that haven't been developed, but unlike some in the community, we're not going to put down this project and bash the city.

People have the right to their opinions, but we believe constant negativity turns off potential developers.

We should instead be backing this proposal and welcoming it. If other developers seem a booming community it may spur them to complete their subdivisions or open a business in town.

■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

Why aren't there traffic jams on Sundays?

REV. THOMAS ARTH
First Evangelical Lutheran Church

When you listen to the radio on weekday mornings and again later in the afternoon, about every 10 minutes you hear a traffic report. On Sundays you won't hear that. The only traffic jams you might hear about on a Sunday are at the Peace Bridge because of a Bills or Sabres game.

The reason there aren't any traffic jams and traffic reports on a Sunday morning is simple, most people don't have to drive to work or school the way they do Monday to Friday. It's the weekend. Most people are sleeping in, or sitting in their pajamas watching TV, or lingering over an unrushed breakfast for a change.

But then again, why aren't there traffic jams on a Sunday morning? If I counted correctly, Port Colborne has 20 churches within our city limits with some others not far from our borders. People worship in all of those churches on a Sunday morning but I'm pretty sure they each have room for more.

You'll hear all kinds of theories about why attendance in churches is declining, and why church membership is decreasing and aging. I'll give you my own theory. I think it has less to do with the people who aren't coming and more to do with the people who are. I'm not saying people are staying away because they don't like the folks who do go to church. What I'm saying is that if we want more people to come to church it's going to be up to us, not so much up to them.

I've grown up going to church so I'm comfortable there, but I'd think that many of our church buildings could seem quite intimidating to someone who's never been in one. It's a rare person that will one day just decide that they're going to go to church on a Sunday morning if they've never been there before. It would be a lot easier if a friend asked, "Would you like to go to church with me on Sunday? I'll pick you up and give you a ride or I'll meet you by the front door at twenty after ten if you like."

I don't think that happens very often. There are a couple of statistics that I've heard about Lutherans. It's said that the average Lutheran invites someone to church every 23 years. There's another statistic that says on average it will take three invitations to church before a person accepts. Combine those two statistics and it'll take 69 years before you get someone to church. Most of us don't have that long left. We've got to do the inviting more often and to more people.

The thing is, the church has a message that changes people's lives for the better. It's a message of love, incredible unconditional forgiving accepting love. And there are a whole lot of people out there living with an aching heart and a suffering spirit that really need to hear and experience that love. Our churches aren't private places, walls put up to keep the world out and our good Christian selves in. Our churches are us, the people in them, but more than that the people who go out from them. We exist for the sake of those people who don't know the incredible life changing message of love and freedom that we have to share.

God wants to turn the world's darkness into light, to heal its brokenness, to fill it with joy and hope and new life. The Bible says that God intends to use us ordinary people to help accomplish that. We've got work to do. It's my prayer, and my dream, and from what I read in the Bible I think it's also God's dream and vision, that we see traffic jams on Sunday mornings.

■readers' views

Concerns over membership fees

Re: The Tribune, Feb. 29 edition, Holy mackerel! says Butters to YMCA fees

No, the proposed YMCA-City of Port Colborne partnership for operating "the warm side" (aka pools/gyms) of Vale Health and Wellness Centre is not a hit with me.

Like Port Coun. Barb Butters and Angie Desmarais, I am concerned about the cost of a "Y" membership which will be almost $700 for a year (adult $43 a month + HST + $100 initiation fee) for me to join.

Also, like Coun. Dave Elliot, I'm concerned the city will be continuing to subsidize "the warm side" for $300,000. According to the Community Services Report Number 2012-06 presented to council Feb. 27 the conservative net city subsidy was estimated at $495,797.

If the "Y" should not reach its goal of 3,000 members will the "Y" investment of $1.8 million in renovations, equipment and installations to the new centre have to be paid for by the city taxpayers as well?

I'm also concerned, like Coun. Butters, we will lose the good staff at our pool.

My suggestion for council would be to get the new pools and arenas up and running with existing city staff and then work on plans for utilizing the gym areas.

Beth Jeffery
Port Colborne

Reader skeptical of McGuinty's 'promise'

'Teachers about to get schooled' – Christina Blizzard

I was quite intrigued by Christina Blizzard's apparent support for McGuinty with his 'promise' to impose a freeze on teachers pay for two years. Whatever has happened in the past week or two make anyone in Ontario, particularly a political commentator, suddenly believe that McGuinty will start keeping any promise he might make as political expediency at any time?

A far more appropriate observation would be 'I'll believe it when I see it.'

And a further disservice she did to the Ontario public was to write '..they contribute 13% into it.,' 'it' being their pension scheme, the one invested in the private sector and one of the wealthiest public sector pension funds, if not the wealthiest, in the province.

Teachers incomes, benefits (including the $45,000 'windfall' for sick days) and their generous pensions, that allow them to retire at 55 are all tax dollars, every cent, apart from their huge investment profits based on the taxpayers, not teachers contributions.

Any tax deductions are a mere sham to keep up the pretense that teachers contribute just the same as other non-public groups in our economy. In fact the government are merely double dipping from taxes already paid by the private sector, where all taxes come from.

However vital education and teachers may be to the wellbeing of our society, to pretend that they actually contribute taxes to this economy, or any other, is simply not true.

And back to McGuinty? The only logical reason to think he may actually try to freeze teachers pay and stand up to the teacher's unions might be because he already knows he has broken too many promises and at worst the negative results of any such confrontation will be dumped in the lap of his successor as Leader of the Liberal Party, or at best, for him and his party, in the lap of whoever leads the government elected to make the best of the economic disaster he leaves as his legacy to Ontario.

Andrew Watts
Wainfleet

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■ COLUMN

Gelato pure happiness in Italy

MichElle Pressé
CANADIAN GIRL, ITALIAN LIVING

There doesn't seem to be a single street corner or park bench in Italy in which a person is not happily enjoying an ice cream cone.

Or gelato, as the Italians call it.

Gelato is the staple of pure happiness in Italy. An Italian without gelato is much like a Canadian without their morning cup of Tim Hortons coffee, your day just isn't the same without it.

Throughout my experience of living in Rome, I have tried dozens of flavours that come from this sweet, creamy frozen treat and make gelato-hopping a religious experience by treating myself to a cup every day between Sunday and Friday.

If I make time for a jog, I'll have it on Saturday as well.

Recently I stumbled upon a gelato shop called Della Palma that is just minutes from the Pantheon.

Although it isn't a fact, the rumour around Rome is that the Pope has gelato from this shop delivered to the Vatican, and rightfully so. At Della Palma, there are 126 flavours you can choose from such as green apple, champagne, pear and cheesecake, watermelon, and chocolate orange.

Della Palma uses 100% natural ingredients for their gelato. The green apple has actual chunks of apple in it, and the oranges used for the chocolate orange are imported from Sicily.

There are four different cup sizes that range from 2.50 Euro to 10 Euro.

It's a bit pricey, but worth the splurge if you enjoy quality gelato.

Another famous gelato shop in Rome is called Il Gelato Di San Crispino, which happens to be a stone's throw away from Della Palma.

Il Gelato Di San Crispino (known simply as San Crispino by the locals) was made famous by Elizabeth Gilbert, the author of 'Eat, Pray, Love.' San Crispino offers refreshing flavours like honey, ginger, cinnamon, and white fig. If one of these flavours doesn't sound appetizing, don't worry, there are 18 other flavours to choose from.

see PRESSÉ | page 6

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■ PRESSÉ

MICHELLE PRESSE Special to InPort News

Gelato is the staple of pure happiness in Italy. At Della Palma, there are 126 flavours you can choose from such as green apple, champagne, pear and cheesecake, watermelon, and chocolate orange.

Gelato a true Italian treat

FROM PAGE 5

The local's favourite gelato shop in Rome is Fridgidarium.

Fridgidarium is located between Piazza Navona and Campo dei Fiori. All of the gelato is handmade on the premises, and since the shop can only fit about 10 customers at a time, there is usually a line up as long as the Welland Canal.

But don't worry — the workers move quickly and you forget all about the wait once you get to the front of the line.

What makes Fridgidarium so special is that the flavours change every day. So if you try their stracciatella (vanilla with stripes of dark chocolate) one day and go back the next, your heart may be broken to find that it isn't available that day because they rotated the flavours.

Fridgidarium is also unique because you can have your entire cup or cone dipped in hot Nutella for no extra charge.

There are just some things in life Italians do better, and gelato is one of them.

■ WAINFLEET – FIND YOUR COUNTRY SIDE

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Winners of Wainfleet's slogan contest were, from left, Laura Nuccitelli, Melissa Loeffen and Amanda Arts. The three were presented plaques by Mayor April Jeffs for the slogan: Wainfleet — find your country side.

■ BOOKS

Port author reaching for wider audience

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Any author's dream is to have their work reach a broader audience.

For Port Colborne's Edward Alex Smith the fruits of his creative labour will now be enjoyed on a larger scale after his first novel, Trudemption was picked up by iUniverse, an Americanbased self-publishing book company. As a result, Smith's book is now available online at iUniverse's website (www.iuniverse.com)and at Barnes and Noble bookstores in the United States.

"I'm really proud of the final product," said Smith, who originally self-published Trudemption two years ago. "Barnes and Noble will have it in stock and name me as a new Canadian artist. It's really overwhelming to me."

Trudemption tells the tale of Alex, a teenager who predicts his own demise in a year's time due to his own actions. Alex's life was full of happiness — with support from his family, friends and a girlfriend -- but it was all lost after the main character develops a drug addiction.

Part fiction, part biography, the author is the main character living in a town that's similar to surroundings in the region. The story is based on true and fictional experiences from his life in the past decade.

Somewhat dark at times, Trudemption deals with several topics including death, drug experimentation and love.

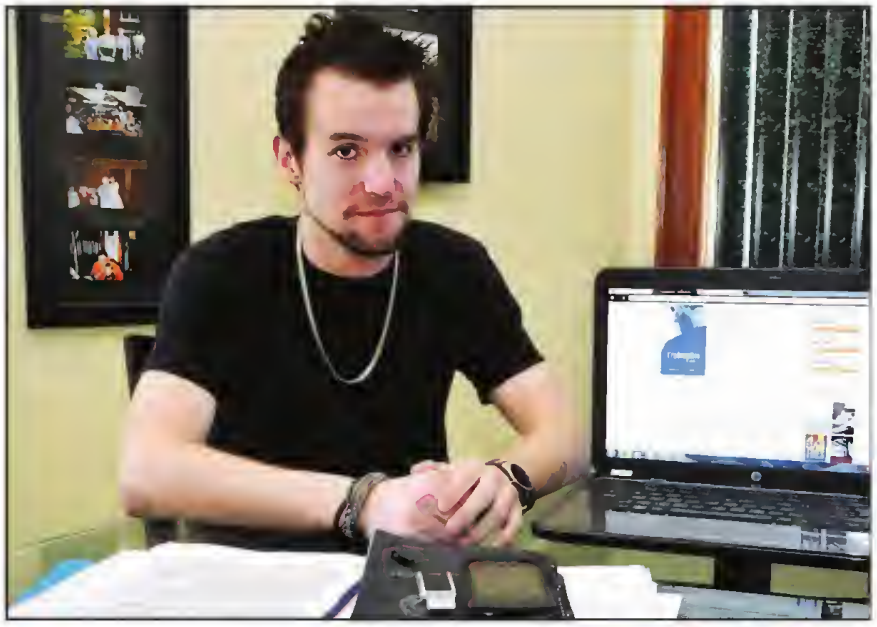
While talking to iUniverse executives, Smith was sold on the idea of writing his story as a manuscript for the big screen. Excited over the concept, Smith plans on bringing his work to Book-to-Screen PitchFest this fall in New York City.

Book-to-Screen Pitchfest is an event where authors come face-to-face with professionals from film and television industries where they can pitch manuscripts in hopes of translating it into a feature film. The event takes place three times a year in Los Angeles, Las Vegas and New York City.

"Consultants (from iUniverse) tell me my story will be in the 15% that's picked," Smith said. "I'm all about possibilities. It's a great shot."

With Trudemption complete Smith is hard at work finishing up the second novel of a planned trilogy, entitled Predemption. Predemption is the prequel to his first novel, where the main character, Alex, discusses life with his family and meeting his girlfriend, Chelsea.

"The second book is the hardest project yet for me," Smith said. "I tried to take a year to write this book, but the deadline was stretched. I feel like if I take my time with it the story will be better. The third book is already planned. I look forward to writing it."



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo

Port Colborne author Edward Alex Smith works on a manuscript of his second book, Predemption. Smith's first book, Trudemption, was recently picked up by publisher iUniverse.

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W. GIFFORD-JONES, MD

W. Gifford-Jones, M.D.
Nationally Syndicated Medical Journalist

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"Where can I get another tube of MYO-MED?" a tennis friend asked me. I'd given him a sample of this cream when his arthritic knee kept him from playing tennis for several months. Now he was back in the game. So how does this new all-natural, toxin-free analgesic help painful joints? And why is it safer than other over-the-counter painkiller cream? Today, 21million North Americans suffer daily the agony of arthritis. Others see their quality of life diminished by sports injuries, backache, sore muscles and the ravages of aging joints.

Customary treatment has been the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Unfortunately, too many people take these over-the-counter medications thinking they're as safe as M and M candy. But every year 25,000 North Americans die from gastro-intestinal complications due to this self-prescribed remedy. It's a huge price to pay for pain relief. MYO-MED eliminates this problem. To my knowledge, no side effects have been reported by using this natural cream.

But how is MYO-MED different from other over-the-counter painkillers? Remember that, due to increasing drug complications, it's important to know what a medication does not contain. Today there are 300 different topical analgesics available in North America. But 90 percent of these painkillers contain methyl salicy-late. Excessive use of this substance over a period of time has been associated with serious health problems and in rare cases can be fatal.

MYO-MED does not contain methyl salicylate and is the only all natural and toxin-free cream available.

MYO-MED consists of a combination of six anti-inflammatory ingredients proven to be effective in relieving a variety of painful conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, tendonitis and carpal tunnel syndrome. One of the main ingredients is cetylated fatty acids. These are naturally occurring compounds that help to reduce inflammation, pain and increase mobility. Another ingredient, Bryonia Alba, is a vine-like plant native to the woods of Europe. It's particularly effective for the pain associated with motion. It's also helpful in the treatment of neck, back pain and those suffering from fibromyalgia. MYO-MED also has what's called a "Nano Delivery System": It's a process that quickly carries these six anti-inflammatory ingredients deep into affected muscles and joints where they're needed, providing relief in minutes.

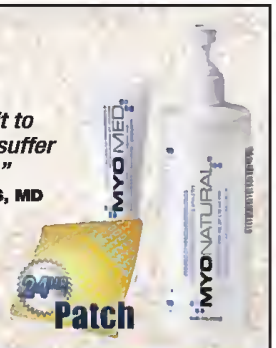
But how good is MYO-MED in easing pain? Researchers at the University of Connecticut carried out double-blind studies to test its effectiveness. One group of patients, suffering from osteo-arthritis of the knee, was treated with MYO-MED. A similar group received a placebo cream. But neither doctors nor patients were told which cream was the real McCoy. Thirty minutes after applying the cream, patients were tested to see how their disability was affected. How far could they flex a knee before it became painful? How well could they get up from a chair? How much time did it take to go up and down 11 steps? And how good was their balance?

Patients were then advised to apply their creams twice a day for 30 days. Both groups of patients were also provided with nutritional guidance to ensure neither group gained weight during the trial period.

LIVE PAIN FREE WITH MYO-MED

Researchers found that patients using MYO-MED noticed better function after 30 minutes. Further improvement occurred over the ensuing 30 days. Patients could flex knees better, needed less time to navigate stairs and rise from a chair. They also showed improved balance, strength and physical endurance.

MYO-MED combats another vital problem. It's logical that if a knee joint hurts, there's a natural tendency not to move it. But ships develop barnacles if tied up to dock too long. And people suffering from painful joints slowly but surely lose muscle mass if they become less active. This can have a major effect on their way of life. Several professional athletes who have access to the best treatments available say that MYO-MED keeps them on the playing field. It has also kept me at the trap shooting range as the gun's recoil often leaves me with a painful shoulder. And my tennis friend couldn't be happier. I'll surprise him with another tube at Christmas.



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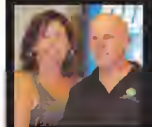

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EB-2011-0354

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

ENBRIDGE GAS DISTRIBUTION INC.

RATES FOR 2013

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. ("Enbridge") filed an application on January 31, 2012 with the Ontario Energy Board under section 36 of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998*, S.O. c.15, Schedule B, for an order of the Board approving or fixing rates for the sale, distribution, transmission and storage of natural gas, commencing January 1, 2013. The Board's decision on this application may have an effect on all of Enbridge's customers. The Board has assigned the application File No. EB-2011-0354.

Enbridge has applied to the Board for new rates for 2013 to be set on a cost of service basis using a forecast of 2013 costs. If the application is approved as filed, the total bill for a typical residential customer consuming 3,064 m^3 per year would increase by $34 per year, or 3.2%. For a typical commercial customer consuming 22,606 m^3 per year, the total bill would increase by $186 per year, or 2.8%.

How to see Enbridge's Application

To see a copy of the application, go to the Consumer page of the Board's website and enter the case number EB-2011-0354 in the "Find an Application" box. A copy can also be seen at the Board's office and at Enbridge's office at the address indicated below or on its website http://www.enbridgegas.com/ratecase/.

How to Participate

Comment

If you wish to give your opinion on the proceeding to the Board members hearing the application, you are invited to send a written letter of comment to the Board no later than **30 days** after the publication or service date of this notice. A complete copy of your letter of comment, including your name, contact information, and the content of the letter, will be provided to the applicant and the Hearing Panel. All letters of comment will be placed on the public record, which means that the letters can be seen at the Board's offices and will be available on the Board's website. Before placing the letter of comment on the public record, the Board will remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the letter of comment (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the letter of comment will become part of the public record. Please address your letter of comment to the Board Secretary at the address below, and reference file number **EB-2011-0354** at the top of your letter.

Observe

If you do not wish to actively participate in the proceeding but you do wish to receive documents issued by the Board, you may request observer status. Your written request must be received by the Board no later than **10 days** from the publication or service date of this notice. All letters requesting observer status will become part of the public record, which means that the letters can be seen at the Board's offices and will be placed on the Board's website. Before placing the request for observer status on the public record, the Board will

- remove any personal (i.e., not business) contact information from the request (i.e., the address, fax number, phone number, and e-mail address of an individual). However, the name of the individual and the content of the request for observer status will become part of the public record.

Intervene

If you wish to actively participate in the proceeding (e.g. submit questions, file argument), you may request intervenor status from the Board, no later than **10 days** after the publication or service date of this notice. Instructions for requesting intervenor status are available on the Board's website at www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/participate. Everything an intervenor files with the Board, including the intervenor's name and contact information, will be placed on the public record, which can be seen at the Board's offices and on the Board's website.

If you do not have internet access, please call 1-888-632-2727 to receive information about this proceeding and how to participate.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE IN THE PROCEEDING.

ADDRESSES

THE BOARD:
Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
27th Floor
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4
Attention: Board Secretary
Filings:
https://www.errr.ontarioenergyboard.ca
E-mail:
boardsec@ontarioenergyboard.ca
Tel: 1-888-632-6273 (Toll-free)
Fax: 416-440-7656

THE APPLICANT:
Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc.
500 Consumers Road
Toronto, ON M2J 1P8
Attention: Norm Ryckman,
Director, Regulatory Affairs
E-mail:
EGDRegulatoryProceedings@Enbridge.com
Tel: 416-495-5499
Fax: 416-495-6072

DATED at Toronto,
March 2, 2012

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD
Original Signed By

Kirsten Walli
Board Secretary

■ ART

Floormat paintings appeal to feet as well as the eyes

DAVE JOHNSON
InPortNews Staff

PORT COLBORNE — If you step on Liisa Harju's artwork, as I nearly did when walking into Arts Place Gallery, she won't get mad at you.

In fact, she'd probably encourage you to step all over her art, as long as it's not already hanging on the walls.

The Pelham artist has a collection of 11 canvas floormat paintings showing in the Port Colborne art gallery, at 714 King St., from now until Friday, April 13.Before she started with the floormat pairings, done in oil-- or acrylic-based paint, Harju took art classes in the '60s and went to Niagara College in the '70s. She took print making and life drawing while at the college.

"I tried to do oil painting and watercolours, but I made a total mess of it," she said.

Harju has also made metal statues and stone inukshuks.

Designs for her floormats, also called floor cloths, come to her all the time.

"I'm thinking 24/7 of designs and when something comes to me, I'll make a sketch on a piece of paper."

She also carries a sketch pad and pencil with her wherever she does.

"If I see something I like, I'll make a quick sketch of it. I love sketching ... it's so immediate."

Her artwork on display at the gallery is eclectic, nothing goes with anything else.

"That's the fun of it."

Her works, all for sale, can be hung on the wall or used as a floormat. Her daughter has had one for 10 years and she's had one in her kitchen for seven years. Neither have worn out.

"They're very durable ... all I do is wax them."

The only place you wouldn't want them is outside a door of home, where the elements would damage them.

Harju is an invited guest at the gallery, but she has had paintings hang there at a past show.

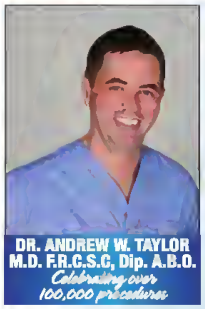
Arts Place Gallery is located at 714 King St. in Port Colborne and is open from noon to 4:30 p.m., Friday to Sunday.

dave.johnson@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @DaveJTheTribune

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Artist Liisa Harju hangs one of her floormat pieces of art at Arts Place Gallery in Port Colborne. Eleven of her pieces are hanging at the gallery until April 13.

Over 100,000 people have trusted their vision to Lasik Provision



DR. ANDREW W. TAYLOR
M.D. F.R.C.S.C, Dip. A.B.O.
Celebrating over 100,000 procedures

Dr. Andrew Taylor knows how challenging it can be for consumers deciding on laser vision correction procedures. Understandably anyone would be confused by the wide range of fees associated with laser eye surgery. Some centers are offering quotes as low as $299 per eye with very vague guarantees. Consumers have caught on to the fact that these fees are never really as low as they seem. If you can't trust the advertised price, then how can you trust that provider to perform your surgery? These are your eyes, and the best guarantee in laser eye surgery comes directly from your surgeon, equipment and the professional staff that support both.

Many consumers now realize the tangible economic benefit of laser vision correction. If you are a contact lens wearer the average monthly cost for contacts and supplies is between $75-$100 dollars. This represents an annual cost of roughly $1,500 dollars since most patients require a back up pair of glasses every 12-24 months. One has typically spent about $7,500 dollars on optical wear over the past 5 years and will have similar cost over the next 5 years to look forward too. In fact patients are already financing their vision correction needs. The effect of lasik can last a lifetime making your investment more cost efficient.

At Lasik Provision, laser vision correction is viewed as an art form. Dr. Andrew Taylor has hand selected an experienced team of individuals who are constantly striving to provide the finest in all aspects of your lasik experience. Dr. Andrew Taylor will personally perform your laser eye surgery. He has been serving the residents of South Western Dntario and the Northern United States for over 20 years. He can draw upon a personal experience of having performed over 1DD,D00 successful lasik procedures to achieve the results you desire. Lasik Provision has superior technology and Dr. Andrew Taylor has personally used every major laser platform that is used in North America today. He lectures internationally in the field of laser eye surgery and on laser platforms. He is involved in the regulatory studies for the approval of new devices and procedures. Dr. Andrew Taylor has chosen the Zeiss MEL 80TM Excimer laser and the Visumax Femtosecond Laser as his preferred platform. Carl Zeiss is internationally renowned for their expertise in optics, their lenses are likely to be the ones you use at home in your cameras. Carl Zeiss Meditec utilizes advanced engineering profiles which produce superlative, predictable refractive outcomes which is what you want as a refractive eye patient.

The Zeiss MEL 80TM Excimer laser custom treats every eye with Wavefront technology. This laser is one of the fastest in the world; It uses dual eye tracking for accuracy and centration. It also uses aberration-optimized algorithms to reduce the incidence of night glare. Visual quality and stability is unsurpassed with the Carl Zeiss laser platform. The MEL 8DTM laser has the newest technology providing correction for the presbyopic population. It is known as Zeiss BLENDED VISIDN, and is based on the principal of micro- monovision. It allows the eyes to maintain different focusing depths. Both eyes are corrected for intermediate distance at all times with one eye having a range of vision extending to distance and the other eye having a range of vision extending to near. This creates a functional range of clear vision across all visual fields; near, intermediate and far. The laser reshapes the cornea using different power zones to create useful spherical aberration; making the image disparity between the two eyes so small that the brain doesn't notice which eye it is using for far and near. This is the most exciting device in laser eye surgery today; treating 'old age eyes'.

Lasik Provision is using the Carl Zeiss Meditec VisuMax Femtosecond laser for all flap creation in laser eye surgery. Dr. Andrew Taylor is now only performing completely bladeless lasik procedures. It provides maximum safety and comfort for the patients. It creates a thinner flap, allowing patients with thinner corneas an opportunity to have the potential for lasik. It uses minimal energy, allowing more precision and less tissue disruption and therefore faster healing.

Your eyes are precious and Dr. Andrew Taylor looks forward to providing you with a level and care that exceeds your expectations. Life was not meant to be viewed through glasses or contact lenses; life is about freedom. With these new technological breakthroughs, there has never been a better and safer time to experience the freedom so many millions of people have enjoyed with laser eye surgery.

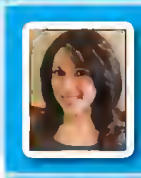
On behalf of the entire staff at Lasik Provision we lcok forward to working with you.

Jim, Police Officer

"Wearing glasses and contacts in the line of duty was a huge burden. In varying environmental conditions my glasses would fog up or be covered in moisture from rain or snow, and contact lenses would dry out before the end of a twelve hour shift. I was sceptical about the whole Lasik process but Dr. Taylor and his staff were very knowledgeable and reassuring. I had the Lasik process completed five years ago. I have had no complications and wish I would have had the procedure completed at the start of my career. The clarity with which I can see is remarkable. It is unbelievable that such a short surgical procedure with minimal discomfort can produce such results. I highly recommend Lasik Provision to colleagues, family and friends and would encourage anyone who struggles with glasses and contacts to attend for a consultation."

Barb, Optometrist

"I am thrilled with the vision sharpness and stability since having laser eye surgery with Dr. Taylor. It has enabled me to work more efficiently without having to put glasses on and off all the time. I am very grateful for Dr. Taylor's skills and professionalism for treating my myopia."



Fatima, Youth Worker

"I am writing this to express my full gratitude and appreciation for Dr. Taylor and his entire staff, having had successful Lasik surgery performed with absolutely no complications whatsoever. I was not only impressed but overwhelmed with the expertise, professionalism, and courtesy that I received from every single person that I came into contact with during the course of that day."

Don, Workplace Safety & Insurance Specialist

"I have referred to it as a minor miracle! After many years of wearing irritating contact lenses and also needing reading glasses, I have now thrown them all away! With my new blended vision I now see clearly near and far. I am absolutely thrilled with the result!"

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■ HOCKEY

Port novices, bantams sailing into OMHA finals

BERND FRANKE
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — How's this for a hat trick : three teams, three Ontario hockey championships.

While that's much easier said than done, Port Colborne could find itself in the enviable position of celebrating just that when the playoffs at the novice, bantam and junior B levels wrap up in early spring.

Not only are the Scotiabank Sailors opening the best-of-five Ontario Minor Hockey Association bantam final as the defending bantam B champions, but the novice silver medallist Golden Puck Sailors are back playing for the gold medal.

Then there are the Port Colborne Pirates. They remain in the hunt for a Sutherland Cup junior B championship after dispatching the Stoney Creek Warriors in five games in the opening round of the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League playoffs.

With the semifinals, finals, Sutherland Cup double round-robin and, finally, the Cup final, the Pirates have the longest road to travel before ending 2011-12 as the last team standing in the winner's circle.

Not so for their novice and bantam counterparts. Both are but three wins away from taking the best-of-five, six-point finals in their respective divisions.

With a 28-0 record in league play and a 62-2-1 mark overall, the Sailors are sailing into the OMHA novice final as the team to beat, facing the very team that beat them last year, Lambeth.

"They swept us in three games," head coach Shawn Coers said in pointing out that avenging last year's loss would make a title taste even sweeter this year.

In the semifinals Lambeth, a suburb of London, Ont., defeated Mount Brydges in four games, while Port Colborne needed the minimum three games to extinguish the Alymer Flames in three games.

Port Colborne competed in four tournaments, winning three and losing in the final at the Silver Stick qualifier in Pelham.

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Katherine H., Customer, Edmonton, AB

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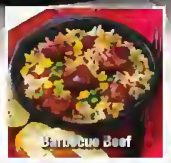

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■ FUNDRAISER

Community needs top menu at SoupFest

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — It takes more than a soup kitchen to help people get back on their feet, it takes a community making soup.

Break out the crackers because Port Cares' third annual SoupFest returns to Port Colborne Friday, March 30, to help raise money for programs geared to addressing needs in the community.

"The needs are there and we need to be able to move people forward so they can be in a more positive place in their lives," Pam Swick Janjac, development officer at Port Cares, said.

There will be two seatings at St. Patrick Church Hall on King St. in Port Colborne, the first at 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the second from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 each, and there are 120 tickets per seating.

This year SoupFest features eight soups, but for now the flavours are a surprise.

Students, teacher chefs and professor chefs from Port Colborne High School's culinary arts program, Lakeshore Catholic's hospitality and tourism program and Niagara College's Canadian Food and Wine Institute will each provide two soups and breads.

This year's new soup chefs from Port Cares' own new Food Service Preparation Program, a 12-week course preparing people for jobs in the food service industry or for college, will also test their skills and provide two soups for the fundraiser.

Tickets are available at Port Cares on Charlotte St. in Port Colborne, cash, credit, cheque and debit are accepted. more information or to reserve tickets call 905-834-3629, ext. 266.

Tickets often sell out early.

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■ **HOCKEY:** Pirates eliminate Stoney Creek

JOE CSEH InPort News Photo

Port Colborne Pirates forward Damien Lalonde, left, is shadowed by Stoney Creek Warriors defender Max Lindsay in junior B hockey quarterfinal playoff action Friday night at Westside Arena in Port Colborne.

Same time this year

BERND FRANKE
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — So far, the junior B playoffs are living up to their billing in the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League's Golden Horseshoe Conference.

As expected, each of the top three seeds in the eight-team playoff pool advanced to the second round with relative ease. Four-game sweeps, over the Buffalo Blades and Fort Erie Meteors, respectively, were completed by the top-seeded St. Catharines Falcons and the No. 2 seed Niagara Falls Canucks, while the third seed, the Port Colborne Pirates, needed just five games to send the sixth-seeded Stoney Creek Warriors into the off-season.

Port Colborne eliminated Stoney Creek from Sutherland Cup contention with a 9-2 victory Friday night at Westside Arena, a whistle-to-whistle win setting the stage for a second Canucks-Pirates semifinal in as many years.

While Niagara Falls took the season series with Port Colborne five games to two, that's so much ancient history now that the second round of the playoffs is about to get underway as far as Pirates head coach Bryan Kelly is concerned.

"Terry (Masterson) has had two powerhouse programs -- this year and last -- but we're one of the few teams that have played them tough," he said in praising the Canucks teams put together by head coach Masterson, to date the only coach in the Golden Horseshoe to win two Ontario junior B hockey championships.

Kelly said in recalling last year's seven-game semifinal against Niagara Falls that the Pirates "were 20 minutes away from going to the finals."

"We have a good returning core from that team that learned from the experience. That can only help us when we meet the Canuck this time."

"Every game with them was tight. I expect the same to happen in the playoffs."

Jordan Warren had a hat trick against Stoney Creek and Carson Minor had a goal and four assists as the Pirates won the opening-round series in four games to one and advanced to play Niagara Falls in the semifinas, also a best-of- seven affair.

Jordan Ryan, Zach DeConcilys, Dayne Phillips, Charlie Izaguirre and Bryan Komasara also scored for Port Colborne, which dominated the Warriors despite having only a slight edge in shots on net, 46-40.

Roger Sherwood and Myles Falasca scored third-period goals for the Warriors when their team was already trailing 9-0 and Stoney Creek was well on the way to its second lopsided loss in as many games. Port Colborne took Wednesday night's Game 4 at Valley Park Arena in Hamilton by a 7-1 margin.

Despite finishing the regular season 33 points behind the Pirates in the Golden Horseshoe standings, the Warriors didn't exit the playoffs without a fight.

They upset Port Colborne with a 5-3 victory on the road in the series opener and Tuesday night's Game 3 at Westside Arena, a 4-3 win by the Pirates in overtime, could have gone either way.

■ PINCH AT THE PUMPS

Steele still suffering from gas pains

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - Pump prices are still pressing for Bill Steele.

The Ward 1 councillor updated the public during a recent city council meeting on his pursuit to determine why Port Colborne's gas prices seem consistently higher than surrounding municipalities.

In December Steele brought forth a motion to council to ask the Competition Bureau to investigate the issue.

The city has since written the federal agency, but was told evidence was required to spark further investigation, said Port Colborne chief administrative officer Bob Heil.

Though he thought the consistent difference in pricing between Port Colborne and neighbouring municipalities would be sufficient, the response said more detail is needed.

Last week, Heil and Steele photocopied recent newspaper articles about the difference in prices at local pumps and sent them off to the federal agency with hopes of getting a better response. The articles include pictures of gas stations in Port Colborne and Welland taken on the same day with very differing prices.

"They will be formally responding to us shortly," Heil said.

Once a response is received, it's expected to be brought forward at a future council meeting.

Steele thanked the public for stopping him while he's out and about in the community to discuss the issue. He said he's often approached at places like the grocery store and told concerns similar to his own about high gas prices in Port Colborne.

"It's encouraging," he said. "It is on people's minds."

Steele said he travelled to Wasaga Beach on the weekend and when he left town, Port Colborne's prices were comparable to that of Welland and even Hamilton. But when he arrived home early the next day, Port Colborne prices had risen a nickel above neighbouring communities.

"It's discouraging to see it fluctuate so much," he told council, adding he wants to see details about why that fluctuation occurs brought to light.

maryanne.firth@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @mfirthTribune

■ LOU'S TIRE THE BUSINESS OF THE QUARTER

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Robert Hesp, of RBC Dominion Securities, presents the Business of the Quarter Award to Lou's Tire owner Jody Edwards at a recent Port Colbore-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce Mayors' Breakfast.

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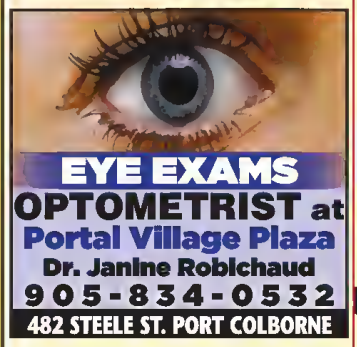
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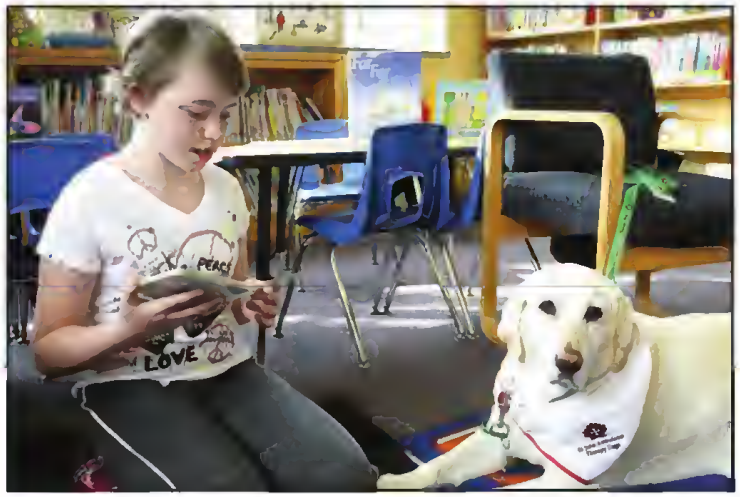

VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Elizabeth Earick reads a book to St. John Ambulance therapy dog Marcy Meyer, a 10-year-old yellow lab Monday morning at Port Colborne Public Library's Paws 4 Stories session.

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Fill in your ballot for the In Port's Readers Choice Awards. Write the names of your favourite businesses on the line provided. You can vote for as many different types of business as you wish in each of the categories. Those merchants and businesses who receive the most votes will win the prestigious Readers Choice Award. The winners will be announced in a special section of the In Port News Thursday April 5, 2012. Watch for our promos! Your ballot is your entry to our cash prize! So fill it out and send it today! The deadline for submission is 5 p.m., Friday, March 23, 2012.

Limit: One ballot per reader.

Please note: All categories do not have to be fully completed.

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Contest Rules:

Only original newspaper ballots or hand-drawn facsimilies accepted. No mechanical reproductions allowed. Employees of the Tribune, and their immediate families are not eligible. Winners of the Grand Prize will be determined by a random draw from all entries received by 5 p.m., Friday March 23, 2012. Winners will be contacted by phone. You do not have to fully complete ballot to win.

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■ HEALTH

NHS hands out awards of excellence

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

WELLAND — When a family battles illness or deals with an accident, stress levels can run high and that's why a smile can make all the difference.

It's why Mary Ann Biggar, a patient registration clerk at Welland Hospital, was given an award of excellence, Focus on Those We Serve, at Niagara Health System's annual President's Award of Excellence celebration at Niagara College recently. The awards recognize hospital staff, doctors and volunteers for their excellent service.

A release from Niagara Hospital System said Biggar is known for her cheery disposition, quick smile and her genuine compassion for patients. She always focuses on serving those she meets, calming patients and families in the ER, helping patients get to appointments on time and does everything possible to keep them updated on information about their situation during their stay.

AWARD WINNERS

President's Award of Excellence: Helmly Flus, administrative assistant in the oncology program in St. Catharines General Hospital for creating a ceremony celebrating the lives' of cancer survivors when they complete treatment.

Focus on Those We Serve: Mary Ann Biggar, patient registration clerk at the Welland County Hospital for cheery disposition Building Strong and Successful Relationships: Caroline Bourque Wiley, public affairs consultant, for her work during the C. difficile outbreak. Bringing Out the Best in Each Other: Larry Watson, Hospitality Services Aide, St. Catharines General Hospital Site, for his unyielding support of others. Compassion, Professionalism and Respect: Dr. Mellissa Hollidge, for saving a three-yearold's life off the clock.

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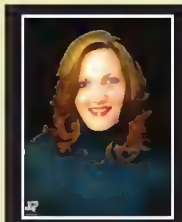

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

Claims against the Estate of **Luigi Comisao,** late of Port Colborne, in the Province of Ontario, who died on the 15th day of December, 2011, must be in our hands by March 30, 2012, after which date the assets of the Estate will be distributed.
Dated at Port Colborne, Ontario this 24th day of February, 2012.

Christopher E. H. Wilson, Estate Trustee
c/o WILSON, OPATOVSKY
Barristers & Solicitors,
190 Elm Street, P. O. Box 99
Port Colborne, Ontario
L3K 5V7

Legal Notices A900

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

Claims against the Estate of **GERALD CECIL THOMPSON,** late of Port Colborne, in the Province of Ontario, who died on the 27th day of July, 2011, must be in our hands by April 20, 2012, after which date the assets of the Estate will be distributed.

Jim Munro, Estate Trustee
c/o WILSON, OPATOVSKY
Barristers & Solicitors,
190 Elm Street, P. O. Box 99
Port Colborne, Ontario
L3K 5V7

Easter In Memoriams

Remember your loved one this Easter with an **In Memoriam** publishing in The Tribune,

Saturday, April 7th, 2012

Be sure to have your copy and photo (if desired) to The Tribune office prior to 1:00 p.m. Friday, March 30, 2012 or call toll free

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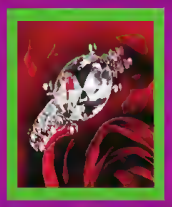

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■ CONSTRUCTION

Innovation key to firm's success

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

WELLAND — Innovation is worth recognizing.

In the case of Timbro, a Welland-based design and building contracting company, its innovation speaks for itself in the projects it works on.

Timbro was recognized by the Niagara Construction Association during its fourth annual Awards of Construction Excellence Gala March 2 at Club Roma in St. Catharines.

It was awarded for 2011 Project of the Year in the $1 to $5 million category for its work on Welland Toyota, as well as the 2011 Renovation Award in the over $1 million category for its work on Welded Tube of Canada.

Timbro president Roy Timms said its simply an honour to be recognized by peers for the distinctions.

"We always thrive on the challenges (of our projects)," Timms said. "It's great to be recognized."

Regarding Timbro's work on the Welded Tube plant on Ridge Rd., Timms said the challenge was working within a tight four-month deadline — from design phase to construction — to make sure everything was complete.

The $50 million project saw an addition to the old Shaw Pipe factory along with retrofitting the existing plant with new technology.

"We got quick approval (from the City of Welland) and worked with an extremely tight schedule," Timms said. "We're happy it turned out well."

Timms noted the facility's expansion brought 60 jobs to Welland.

Supplied photo

David Alexander, of Niagara Workforce Planning Board, presents Roy Timms and John Morrone, from Timbro Design Build Contractors, with the Project of the Year Award -- $1 to $5 million for their work on the Welland Toyota Dealership

The work done on Welland Toyota met gold standards under Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) guidelines, which meant every aspect of its construction had to be ecofriendly.

Welland Toyota's showroom allows natural light in via its many windows and skylights, the foundation features in-floor heating and construction materials are recyclable. These are just a few examples of how the building received LEED gold certification Timms said.

"It's very gratifying," he said about project of the year award. "It was a team effort behind the project. We all worked together on Welland Toyota. It's the only gold certified building in south Niagara I believe."

AWARDS

Niagara Construction Association Awards of Construction Excellence recipients:

■ Project of the Year (Under $1 million): Charter Building Company for WMKL Accountants

■ Project of the Year ($1 million to $5 million): Timbro Design Build Contractors for Welland Toyota Dealership

■ Project of the Year ($5 million and over): Merit Contractors Niagara for Niagara West YMCA

■ Renovation Award (over $1 million): Timbro Design Build Contractors for Welded Tube of Canada

■ Industry Leadership Award: Tom Rankin, Rankin Construction Inc.

■ Outstanding Contribution to the NCA "Ed Christensen" Award: Emilio Raimondo, Raimondo and Associates Architects Inc.

■ Safety Award of Excellence: Rankin Construction Inc.

■ Manufacturers, Suppliers and Services Award of Recognition: Hamilton Building Supply

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